



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Mica Perry
PHONE: 317-232-1292
EMAIL: mperry@cji.in.gov

Indiana Honors Traffic Safety Partners During Operation Pull Over Banquet

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. (November 17, 2006) – More than 125 law enforcement agencies from every corner of the state gathered today at the Ritz Charles, in Carmel (IN.) to attend the 12th Annual Operation Pull Over Banquet. The banquet was hosted by the Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, to pay tribute to all of those who helped to make the Operation Pull Over initiative a great success.

The Governor's Council on Impaired & Dangerous Driving, a division of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) announced more than 40 winners of awards given to city, county and state law enforcement agencies and departments. Those honored have made a difference in keeping Indiana's roads and highways safer.

To qualify for an award, law enforcement departments must have participated in the Operation Pull Over campaigns that are funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

ICJI Executive Director Michael Cunegin said, "On behalf of Governor Mitch Daniels, we want to recognize the outstanding efforts of our men and women in law enforcement. The award recipients demonstrated an exceptional commitment to reducing the number of crashes and traffic related fatalities on Indiana's roadways."

Operation Pull Over relies on a dual strategy involving highly visible law enforcement and heightened public awareness, which combined, is intended to reduce impaired driving and increase seat belt usage in Indiana. Operation Pull Over is structured in four quarterly campaigns annually, with each one consisting of three weeks of public awareness using television and radio advertising and two weeks of increased enforcement.

2006 Operation Pull Over Award Recipients

Operation Pullover Police Departments

Small Police Department – Hanover Police Department
Medium Police Department – Crawfordsville Police Department
Large Police Department – Vincennes Police Department
Best in State Police Department – Terre Haute Police Department

Operation Pullover Sheriff's Departments

Small Sheriff's Department – Randolph County Sheriff's Department
Large Sheriff's Department – Miami County Sheriff's Department

Big City/Big County Police Departments

Small Police Department – Warsaw Police Department
Medium Police Department – Richmond Police Department
Large Police Department – Fort Wayne Police Department
Best in State Police Department – South Bend Police Department

Big City/Big County Sheriff's Departments

Small Sheriff's Department – Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department
Large Sheriff's Department – Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department
Best in State Sheriff's Department – Elkhart County Sheriff's Department

DUI/Task Forces

Small Task Force – Sellersburg Police Department
Medium Task Force – LaPorte County Sheriff's Department
Large Task Force – Mishawaka Police Department
Best in State Task Force – Fort Wayne Police Department

Outstanding Traffic Safety Partnerships

Marion County Traffic Safety Partnership

- ♦ Indianapolis Police Department
- ♦ Marion County Sheriff's Department
- ♦ Lawrence Police Department
- ♦ Speedway Police Department
- ♦ Beech Grove Police Department
- ♦ Cumberland Police Department

Johnson County Traffic Safety Coalition

- ♦ Bargersville Police Department
- ♦ Greenwood Police Department
- ♦ New Whiteland Police Department
- ♦ Prince's Lakes Police Department
- ♦ Johnson County Sheriff's Department
- ♦ Franklin Police Department

Indiana State Police – Operation Pullover

Pendleton Post, District 51
Lowell Post, District 13

Outstanding Prosecutors

Ed Zych, Marion County Prosecutor's Office
David Riggins, Shelby County Prosecutor's Office
Joel Hand, Hamilton County Prosecutor's Office

Governor's Council Chairman's Award

Marian High School SADD Chapter
Penn High School SADD Chapter
Saint Joseph High School SADD Chapter

ICJI Executive Director's Award

Major David Wedding, Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Department

Outstanding Regional Coordinator

Northeast Region – Sgt. Tim Williams – Mishawaka Police Department
Northwest Region – Lt. Mike Decrescenzo – Schererville Police Department
East Central Region – Lt. Lee Hancock – Zionsville Police Department
West Central Region – Sgt. Faron Lake – Bloomington Police Department
Southeast Region – Lt. Racheal Lee – Clark County Sheriff's Department
Southwest Region – Sgt. Christopher Pugh – Evansville Police Department

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute serves as the state's planning agency for criminal justice, juvenile justice, traffic safety and victim services. ICJI develops long-range strategies for the effective administration of Indiana's criminal and juvenile justice systems and administers federal and state funds to carry out these strategies. For more information, visit www.in.gov/cji

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